

**What is claimed is:**

1. Extract of *Acanthopanax koreanum* containing the water extract obtained by treating the root or stem of *Acanthopanax koreanum* with water, for the treatment or  
5 prevention of hepatitis, or as a liver protective drug.

2. The extract of claim 1, wherein the extract contains the ethanol insoluble part obtained by treating the said water extract with ethanol, among the said water  
10 extract obtained from the root or stem of *Acanthopanax koreanum*.

3. The extract of claim 2, wherein extract contains the fraction containing polysaccharide with a molecular  
15 weight larger than range of 12,000~14,000, among the said ethanol insoluble part obtained from the root or stem of *Acanthopanax koreanum*.

4. The extract of claim 2, wherein extract contains  
20 the fraction containing polysaccharide with a molecular weight larger than 100,000, among the said ethanol insoluble part obtained from the root or stem of *Acanthopanax koreanum*.

25 5. The extract of claim 2, wherein extract contains

the said ethanol insoluble part of which the final concentration of ethanol is in between 50 and 90%.

6. The extract of claim 2, wherein extract contains  
5 the said ethanol insoluble part of which the final concentration of ethanol is 80%.

7. Therapeutic agent or preventor of hepatitis containing the extract of *Acanthopanax koreanum* of any of  
10 claim 1 to claim 4 as an effective ingredient.

8. Liver protective drug containing the extract of *Acanthopanax koreanum* of any of claim 1 to claim 4 as an effective ingredient.

15

9. TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor containing the extract of *Acanthopanax koreanum* of any of claim 1 to claim 4 as an effective ingredient.

20 10. Health supplementary food containing the extract of *Acanthopanax koreanum* of any of claim 1 to claim 4 as an effective ingredient.